



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

May 15, 2001

S. 39 **Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001**

As passed by the Senate on May 14, 2001

S. 39 would authorize the award of a medal to public safety officers cited by the Attorney General for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. The act would create a Medal of Valor Review Board composed of 11 members appointed by the Congress and the President. The board would be supported by a new office within the Department of Justice. It would be authorized to conduct hearings and collect information from federal agencies to evaluate the applications of prospective recipients and could recommend up to five candidates to the Attorney General each year.

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 39 would cost about \$250,000 annually. CBO expects that the board would rely primarily on hearings and testimony provided by witnesses and would meet no more than 10 days each year. We expect that the new office at the Department of Justice would provide only administrative services. The act would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

S. 39 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would have no impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

On March 9, 2001, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 802, the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act of 2001, as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary. On May 15, 2001, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 802, as passed by the Senate. The three pieces of legislation are identical, as are the cost estimates.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Mark Grabowicz. This estimate was approved by Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.